

---

**DEPARTMENT  
POLICY****FIP Only**

Each eligible child under age six must receive all immunizations recommended by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. The group is in compliance when immunizations have **begun** for all children subject to this requirement.

The group's payment standard is reduced by \$25 for each month in which:

- One or more eligible children under age six are **not** immunized, **and**
- The group has no unresolved barriers to immunizations.

Consider a child to be age six for the full month in which he/she reaches age six.

**EXEMPTIONS**

A child is exempt from the immunization requirement if:

- He/she is under two months of age.
- Immunizations are medically inappropriate for the child.
- Immunizations are contrary to the family's religious beliefs.

**IMMUNIZATION  
PENALTY**

At redetermination, Bridges reduces the group's payment standard by \$25 for each month in which:

- One or more non-exempt eligible children under age six are **not** immunized, **and**
- The group has no unresolved barriers to immunization.

The penalty is **not** initiated at case opening.

**Related FAP**

The unreduced FIP payment standard is budgeted in related FAP cases when an immunization penalty is imposed on the FIP group.

---

## Compliance

The group is in compliance when immunizations have **begun** for all non-exempt children. When the group begins immunizations, enter the date the group begins as the *Circumstances Start Change Date* and *Cooperation Begin Date* on the *Immunizations* screen. Do **not**:

- Wait until immunizations are complete, **or**
- Require written verification.

The group is in compliance for the whole month in which immunizations are begun. Bridges will remove the penalty and issue a supplement to affect the full month of compliance when the regular monthly issuance cannot be affected.

## Assisting Clients

You must assist clients to resolve problems which hinder compliance with the immunization requirement prior to imposing the penalty. This might include:

- Assistance with transportation; see BAM 825, **and**
- Referral to the group's health provider or to the local health department.

Document these efforts in the physical case record or in *Case Comments* on Bridges.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

At application, do the following:

- Inform each group with a non-exempt eligible child under age six of the:
  - Immunization requirement, **and**
  - Penalty for failure to immunize, which might be initiated at redetermination.
- Review the information titled Immunize Children Under Age Six - Get Shots (FIP) from the Things You Must Do section of the DHS-1171 Information Booklet with the client to ensure full understanding of this requirement.
- Refer the group to its health provider or to the local Health Department for more information on immunizations, as needed.

---

## Reapplication

At reapplication, ask if a formerly penalized group is now willing to comply. The penalty continues at reopening if the:

- FIP EDG closed while being penalized, or because the penalty was initiated, **and**
- Group is unwilling to comply at reopening, **and**
- Group has no unresolved barriers to immunization.

## REDETERMINATION PROCEDURES

At redetermination, ask the client if there are any children under age six who are not up-to-date on their immunizations (shots) in the FIP EDG. If any non-exempt eligible child is not up-to-date on immunizations, the group might be subject to the penalty.

Ask why the child has **not** been immunized. If a problem such as lack of transportation hinders compliance, do all of the following:

- Assist the client to resolve the problem through appropriate referrals or other actions.
- Document all actions in the physical case record or in *Case Comments* in Bridges.
- Follow up with the group at the next annual redetermination.

Do **not** enter a non-cooperation date on the *Immunizations - Details* screen in Bridges if a group has an unresolved problem that hinders compliance. If the client is uncertain whether immunizations are up to date for a child under six, treat that as a problem which hinders compliance. Refer the group to its health provider or to the local health department and document your actions in the physical case record or in *Case Comments* in Bridges.

If the group is not cooperating, use the date the group became non-compliant as the *Circumstances Start/Change Date* and the *Non-Cooperation Date* on the Bridges *Immunization - Details* screen.

Bridges will give the group timely notice of this action and affect the next possible month. If imposing the penalty results in a grant amount under \$10, the FIP EDG will close.

---

## VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Accept the client's statement that:

- All children in the FIP group are immunized, or that immunizations have begun;
- Immunizations are contrary to the family's religious beliefs; **or**
- Immunizations are medically inappropriate for a child.

Use the client's response on the current DHS-1171 or the client's verbal statement. Do **not** require written verification. Document verbal statements and resulting FIP changes in the physical case record or in *Case Comments* in Bridges.

Document all actions you take to assist the group with compliance prior to imposing the penalty in the physical case record or in *Case Comments* in Bridges.

## LEGAL BASE

### FIP

42 USC 608(b)(2)(A)(ii)  
MCL 400.57g  
Mich Admin Code, R 400.3115

### FAP

7 USC 2017(d)